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Message Text

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43
ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 XMB-07

L-03 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /078 W
---------- 040473
R 011439Z APR 74
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7175
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
INFO FAA BRUSSELS
USINT DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ISTANBUL
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

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DEPT PASS COMMERCE FOR COHEN AND EXIMBANK

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRN, SA
SUBJECT: CIVAIR - SAUDI ARABIAN AIRLINES

REF: BEIRUT 3173; JIDDA 1317 AND 1646

1. LOCKHEED AIRCRAFT CORPORATION HELD PRESS CONFERENCE BEIRUT MARCH 29 FORMALLY ANNOUNCING THT SAUDI ARABIAN AIRLINES (SAUDIA) HAS SIGNED DEFINITIVE LETTER-OF-INTENT FOR TWO WIDEBODIED L-1011-100 (450,000 LBS. TAKEOFF WEIGHT) TRISTARS FOR DELIVERY JUNE AND JULY 1975, WITH OPTIONS FOR LATER DELIVERYOF THREE ADDITIONAL TRISTARS.
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2. LOCKHEED EXPECTS FINAL SALES CONTRACT TO BE SIGNED SHORTLY WHICH SHOULD BE IN NEIGHBORHOOD OF $55-60 MILLION, INCLUDING SPARES AND TRAINING. LOCKHEED-CALIFORNIA PRESIDENT DUANE WOOD HOPEFUL HMG WILL AUTHORIZE PRODUCTION GO-AHEAD ON 48,000 BL. THRUST ROLLS-ROYCE RB-211-524 ENGINES FOR THE THREE OPTIONED AIRCRAFT WHICH WILL PERMIT UNCOMPROMISED TRANS-ATLANTIC OPERATIONS VIA EUROPEAN GATEWAYS AND ALSO MAXIMUM STAGE LENGTHS FOR POSSIBLE NEW ROUTES TO FAR EAST. FIRST TWO SAUDIA TRISTARS WILL BE POWERED BY RG-211-22B 42,000 LB. THRUST ENGINES. DOUBLAS AIRCRAFT SOURCES BEIRUT INDICATE THEIR AWARENESS PROPOSAL FOR DC-10-30'S NOT ACCEPTABLE TO SAUDI-.

3. US TRANSPORT AIRCAFT SALES PROSPECTS 1974 IN THIS REGION CONTINUE STRONG, WITH PRESENTLY ACHIEVED TOTAL APPROXIMATELY $64.7 MILLION, INCLUDING THE TWO TRISTARS TO SAUDIA AND ONE ADVANCED 727-200 TO ALIA ROYAL JORDANIAN. WITHIN NEAR FUTURE WE EXPECT ORDERS FROM SYRIAN ARAB AIRLLINES, KUWAIT AIRWAYS, CYPRUS AIRWAYS, THY AND EGYPTAIR. GODLEY

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